FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iran fired three surface-to-surface missiles which hit industrial and military targets in Basra 7 December, IRNA reported, noting that the attacks were in retaliation for the 6 December Iraqi raids on residential areas of Ahvaz where more than 100 civilians were killed and for other air strikes on civilian areas of Khuzestan. A communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 7 December acknowledged that 10 civilians were killed in long-range shelling of Basra. Meanwhile, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA categorically denied that Iraqi aircraft struck nonmilitary targets and charged Iran with "deliberately bombing" civilians in Zakhu 6 December.

Regarding other 6 December action against Iran, Iraqi warplanes hit the Neka power plant near the Caspian Sea 6 December, turning the "largest power station in the Middle East" into rubble, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses announced. IRNA acknowledged that an industrial center in northern Iran was bombed, killing two civilian employees.

On action in the Gulf, Iraqi communiques also noted that in separate raids on 5 and 7 December, warplanes struck two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast. A military statement carried by INA 8 December announced that the air force dealt an "effective blow" to a third large maritime target.

Tehran radio reported that an Iraqi plane was shot down over Eslamabad-e Gharb 7 December.

Lebanon

Camps War — Clashes continued in Beirut 8 December despite continued efforts to implement the Iranian cease-fire plan, Beirut radio reported. The fighting had died down in the wake of the cease-fire proposal, the radio noted, but the situation "erupted" when the Palestinians attempted to advance in the Shatila area 6 December. An Amal statement cited by the radio said 22 people were wounded in this incident. PNSF leaders met in Damascus the following day and announced their intention to consolidate the Iranian initiative through a comprehensive cease-fire, according to Radio Monte Carlo. While the PNSF stated that Palestinian forces would withdraw from Maghdushah 8 December in favor of "nationalist and Islamic" forces from Sidon, Amal leader Nabih Birri subsequently told the radio that Amal objects to the deployment of such forces in Maghdushah, which "is under Amal's control." A related IRNA report confirmed that "differences have emerged" over which forces will be stationed in Maghdushah after a Palestinian withdrawal and over who will be given control of the southern coastal road.

A PLO statement rejected the Iranian-sponsored cease-fire as a "farce" and warned of "suspicious" Syrian military moves, including the dispatch of 700 soldiers to Beirut, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported 8 December. Earlier, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf viewed reports of a cease-fire as a "plot" to foil the PLO's efforts to convene an Arab League foreign ministers meeting on the camps war, WAKH noted. While Riyadh radio stated that 14 Arab states have agreed to attend the meeting, scheduled to begin in Tunis 8 December, Beirut radio noted that Lebanon has "rejected in principle" the idea of an Arab League meeting on the camps war. A PLO official cited by AFP said his organization will call for a joint Arab force to protect the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

In the wake of Libyan media criticism of Amal's role in the camps war, Aden radio likewise stated that "Amal is rendering a service to the Zionist enemy" by shedding Palestinian blood. The radio indicated that this view was expressed by PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas in a 4 December telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

UNIFIL — The Irish foreign minister informed Israel of his government's "grave concern" over the killing of an Irish UNIFIL soldier 6 December by gunfire from soldiers of the South Lebanese Army (SLA), Jerusalem radio reported. Another report by the radio said the Irishman was caught in cross fire between the SLA and "terrorists."

Israel

Arab Unrest — Disturbances continued in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip over the weekend, according to Jerusalem and IDF radio reports. Curfews were imposed in some towns and over 70 Arabs were arrested, Jerusalem radio said, noting that the rioting followed the killing of another youth in a 5 December clash with security forces near Nablus.

U.S.-Iran Affair — A Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Jerusalem radio dismissed "groundless and unfounded" reports that former Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche initiated the transfer of U.S. arms to Iran. The denial followed U.S. press reports that the idea of an arms for hostages deal was suggested by Kimche to former U.S. National Security adviser Robert McFarlane.

Egypt

Six foreigners have been arrested for passing economic and military information to the United States and Israel, according to "informed security circles" cited by the UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* 5 December.

Sudan

Speaking at a press conference in Addis Ababa 5 December, SPLA leader John Garang reaffirmed his organization's willingness to resume peace talks and blamed Khartoum for breaking off the contacts, the clandestine SPLA radio reported.

According to a military statement cited by SUNA, an officer of Anya Nya II and two civilians were killed when Ethiopian troops and rebels attacked the border area of Lara, Upper Nile, 5 December.

DRA

In recent "heavy fighting," Afghan rebels in Nangarhar Province shot down four helicopter gunships, Karachi radio reported 6 December, adding that two of the gunships were downed 28 November. The radio also reported that 200 Soviet soldiers were killed in action in Parvan Province last week.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 235 *8 December 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Najibullah on PDPA's Absorbing of VWOA ..... C 1
Keshtmand Discusses Soviet Assistance ..... C 1
Accepts Fort's Return by USSR ..... C 1
Wakil, Shevardnadze Exchange Greetings ..... C 2
Chamkani Addresses Assembly in Paktia ..... C 2
Soviet Central Asian Delegation Views Visit ..... C 2
Minister on 'Full Freedom' of Religion ..... C 3
Reportage on Operations by Armed Forces ..... C 3
Supply Base in Nangarhar Destroyed ..... C 3
Weapons Captured in Herat ..... C 3
Criminal Bands Crushed in Kuhestan ..... C 4
Mujahidin Attack Zabol Army Center; Raid Convoy *[Karachi]* ..... C 4
Mujahidin Reportedly Kill 14 Soviet-Kabul Troops *[Karachi]* ..... C 4

INDIA

Congress-S Seeks 'Unity' With Congress-I ..... E 1
Resolution Adopted; Parties Merge ..... E 1
Delhi 'In Touch' With U.S., Canada on Terrorism ..... E 1
Periodic Transit of U.S. Planes Reported ..... E 1
Delhi Confirms Explosion at Nepal Mission ..... E 1
6 Killed in Violent Incidents in Delhi 5 Dec ..... E 1
AFP: 'Riot Police' Retaliate ..... E 2
Curfew Around Temples 'Indefinite' ..... E 2
Army in 'Disturbed' Areas Denied ..... E 2
AFP: Troops Move into Delhi Areas ..... E 3
'Over 100' Taken into Custody ..... E 3
Troops Recalled; Curfew To Be Lifted ..... E 3
Curfew Lifted From Sikh Temple Areas ..... E 3
CRPF Defended as 'Competent' ..... E 3
Delhi Reports 'Mob Violence' in Bangalore ..... E 4
Strike Held To Press for Assam Accord 8 Dec ..... E 4
GNLF, CPI-M Clash in West Bengal; 7 Injured ..... E 4
BSF Arrests 47 Pakistani Intruders in Punjab ..... E 4

PAKISTAN

Yaqub Khan Says U.S. Not Given Military Base ..... F 1
Foreign Secretary Sattar Visits Moscow ..... F 1
Further Reportage on Visit by Iran's Khatami ..... F 1
Letter of Understanding Signed *[IRNA]* ..... F 1
Khatami Leaves Islamabad for Lahore *[IRNA]* ..... F 1
Holds Press Conference *[IRNA]* ..... F 1
Talks With India on Border Crossing Slated ..... F 2
Protest Lodged Over Afghan Shelling on Border ..... F 2
Police Use Tear Gas on Striking Clerks in Quetta ..... F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

NEPAL

Bomb Explodes at Consular Office in Calcutta ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Curfew Imposed on Batticaloa Following Killings ..... G 1
Speaker Announces Limits on Parliamentary Reporting ..... G 1

IRAN

Khamene'i on Insistance of Neighborly Relations ..... I 1
U.S. Arms Said Bought Through Arms Broker ..... I 1
Editor Says Majlis Speaker Revealed Arms Sale *[AFP]* ..... I 2
Majlis Deputies Questioning Khomeyni Viewed *[KEYHAN 23 Nov]* ..... I 2
Propaganda, 'Lies' Against Tehran Viewed ..... I 3
Former Prime Minister on War Khomeyni *[ANSA]* ..... I 5
Velayati Comments on Cease-Fire in Lebanon ..... I 5
'So-Called' Leaders Against Ending Camps War ..... I 5
Finance Minister, Soviet Envoy View Cooperation ..... I 6
Economic Delegation Leaves for Khartoum ..... I 6
British Unions Agree to Redefined War Zone ..... I 7
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 7
Iraqis Bomb Park 5 Dec ..... I 7
Iraqi Bakhtaran, Basra Positions Hit ..... I 7
Iraqis Hit Kordestan Residential Areas ..... I 7
Zakhu Complexes Hit in Retaliation ..... I 7
Iraqi Warplanes Bomb Ahvaz 6 Dec ..... I 7
Spokesman Warns of Retaliation ..... I 7
Death Toll in Ahvaz Raid Said 100 ..... I 8
Iraqis Bomb Industrial Center ..... I 8
Iraqis Bomb Gilan-e Gharb, Kill 1 ..... I 8
Tehran To Retaliate for 48 Hours ..... I 8
UN Envoy Requested To View 'Crimes' ..... I 8
Musavi Promises 'Decisive Response' ..... I 9
3 Missiles Fired at Basra Centers ..... I 9
Iraqi Economic Complexes Hit 7 Dec ..... I 9
Air Defense Downs Iraqi Plane ..... I 9
Iraqi Forces in Val-Fajr 8 Area Hit ..... I 9
'Infiltration' Operations Launched ..... I 9
Communique No 2,676 ..... I 10
Communique No 2,677 ..... I 10

Najibullah on PDPA's Absorbing of VWOA
LD070754 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 6, BAKHTAR — Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, distributed the membership cards of the PDPA to a number of former members of the Vanguard Workers Organisation of Afghanistan, VWOA, which had earlier merged with the PDPA.

Addressing the participants of the ceremony held on the occasion, Najib said the PDPA considers it as its historical task to persistently absorb the progressive forces of its rank.

Congratulating the recipients of the party cards, general secretary of the PDPA CC said that the merger of the VWOA with the PDPA is another bright example of the realisation of policy of the PDPA in this connection. He expressed confidence that the other progressive forces will follow suit.

Thanking the PDPA for absorbing the VWOA into its fold, Taza Khan Deyal, recipient of the membership card assured that he and his colleagues will do their utmost for the realisation of the program of action and Constitution of the party and the lofty objectives of the April Revolution.

Keshtmand Discusses Soviet Assistance
LD080648 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0524 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 7, BAKHTAR — The share of the Soviet assistance for the socio-economic development plan of the DRA for the years 1986-1991 is estimated to be three fourth of the total foreign assistance component of the plan. This was stated by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, at a meeting held at Bala Hesar (Citadel) of Kabul today.

He added that the Soviet gratis aid given in the form of primary goods is of special significance for the development of the national economy of the DRA and raising the standard of living of the working people. Upon our request, he indicated, the Government of the Soviet Union decided to grant to Afghanistan a quantity of ten thousand tons of fodder during the next two months.

The Soviet Union will also allocate 36 million roubles to Afghanistan for the projects in the spheres of transport, irrigation, energy, and housing construction, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said.

Several magnificent establishments, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand recalled, have been built by our Soviet friends in the Bala Hesar of Kabul which have now been put as gifts at the disposal of the people of Afghanistan. This is another manifestation of the internationalist solidarity and the fraternal assistance of our great neighbour to the people of Afghanistan.

We, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said, accept the gift of new structures built by our Soviet internationalist friends during their stay here and are glad to receive the ancient and historical Bala Hesar with new establishments and new features.

One of the regiments of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union was stationed in the Bala Hesar of Kabul which has returned to its homeland after the performance of their internationalist duties.

Accepts Fort's Return by USSR
LD072035 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the military establishments at Kabul Fort were handed over today by the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union in the DRA. At a ceremony held on the occasion at Kabul Fort; the national anthems of the DRA and the Soviet Union were played and a senior officer of the Soviet limited military contingents in the DRA spoke in connection with the internationalist,fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union.

[Begin unidentified voice in Russian with superimposed Dari translation] Comrades, the handing over of the military cantonment to the people of Afghanistan, which is taking place here today, is an outstanding example of the Afghan-Soviet friendship and the militant cooperation between the peoples of our two countries. This friendship and common struggle against the counterrevolution in the defense of Democratic Afghanistan, has further strengthened. We are proud that we are continuing our selfless, fraternal, and internationalist assistance to the people of Afghanistan for the purpose of their struggle for a new life.

We are well aware of the fact that the efforts of the Afghan people for the construction of a new society were confronted with the increasing resistance of imperialism and its parteners from the very first days of the victory of the April Revolution. Notwithstanding the increasing material assistance given to the counterrevolutionary bands and the supply of modern weapons by the United States and its partners, like Pakistan, Iran, and Arab reactionary countries, the DRA Armed Forces, together with the units of the limited contingents of the Soviet Union, are inflicting great blows and losses on the counterrevolutionary bands.

The friendship which has developed through the shedding of blood in the struggle for the victory of truth over falsehood commands us to consolidate friendship and combat cooperation still further between the fraternal armies and to be ready for defending the people of Afghanistan. The handover of this multipurpose cantonment to the people of Afghanistan brings about a fresh dynamism in our fraternal relations and once again emphasizes the unbreakability and strength of Afghan-Soviet friendship. Long live combat cooperation between the soldiers of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. Long live friendship between the people of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan! [applause] [end recording]

Comrade Keshtmand, member of PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers then delivered a speech:

[Begin Keshtmand recording] Comrades and dear friends, today we recall 19 October when an air defense regiment of the Soviet Union, one of six regiments of the Soviet Union's limited contin-

gents which rendered their internationalist duty toward helping revolutionary Afghanistan, left this fort for their peace-loving country. We all remember how, with profound dignity and gratitude, the citizens of Kabul City and the people of our country bade farewell to the internationalist soldiers who are presently engaged in service in the Soviet Union. Today we are receiving the new buildings which were built in this historical fort by the hands of our Soviet internationalist friends during their stay in Kabul. We are receiving an Afghan historical ancient fort which has found a new face with new buildings. Not only have the old buildings been protected and preserved in trust, but new buildings — valued at R1 million, the equivalent of more than 70 million afghani — have been built. This is another manifestation of the cooperation of our Soviet friends.

After completing their internationalist duties our friends left this place, leaving behind newly-built bases. Thus, the fuss made about Soviet regiments having only changed their stations and being moved to areas on the border with the Soviet Union has no base and is nothing but fabrication and fantasy manufactured by our enemies. It is a fact that the process of reduction of the units of the Soviet Union from the DRA began, and is a sign and manifestation of the capability and daily increasing power of our Armed Forces in independently defending the gains of the April Revolution. [passage omitted]

Comrades and friends, the PDPA and the DRA Government, with all interest and energy, resolutely support all peace-seeking initiatives of the Soviet Union, which have been reflected in the statements and announcements of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade M.S. Gorbachev as well as the ideas which have been put forward by Comrade Gorbachev during his press conferences in Moscow and Delhi in connection with the political solution of the questions around Afghanistan.

In conclusion, allow me to express profound gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government on behalf of the Government and people of the DRA for the selfless and great assistance which our great northern neighbour, the USSR, is extending to us so we can realize our socioeconomic programs.

Long live unshakable Afghan-Soviet friendship! [applause] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Wakil, Shevardnadze Exchange Greetings

LD061931 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, has sent a message of congratulations to Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil on his appointment to that post.

Expressing wishes for the consolidation and expansion of the existing friendly relations between the USSR and the DRA in the interests of the people of the two countries and of peace in the region and in the world, the message also wishes success for Comrade Abdol Wakil in his duties as foreign minister of the DRA.

According to another report, Comrade Abdol Wakil sent a message of thanks to Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze for his congratulations and for the all-round friendly internationalist assistance provided by the USSR. The message points out that the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs will spare no effort to consolidate and expand the great Afghan-Soviet friendship in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and of peace and security in the region and in the world.

Chamkani Addresses Assembly in Paktia

LD080718 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 7, BAKHTAR — Haji Mohammed Chamkani, acting president of the Presidium of Revolutionary Council of the DRA, participated in a Grand Jirgah (Assembly) of the elders and dignitaries of the Jaji tribe of Paktia Province, bordering Pakistan.

Addressing the audience, Haji Mohammed Chamkani said, in spite of the fact that reaction and world imperialism headed by the American imperialism have imposed the undeclared war against Afghanistan, the Afghans are attaining their revolutionary aims and aspirations step by step.

Under the leadership of the PDPA, all ethnic groups, tribes, and brotherly nationalities of the country are mobilising in the social organisations as well as in the ranks of the National Fatherland Front (NFF). They play their patriotic role for the fulfilment of the objectives of the party and state of the DRA, Chamkani said.

It is the Islamic and national duty of the elders to take active part in achieving national reconciliation. They should go to their areas and people and by a concerted effort should close the borders before their enemies, Chamkani added.

Bismillah Khann, Haji Jan, and Bahadur Khan, on behalf of the people, pledged their full support for the humanistic and philanthropic measures of the party and state of the DRA for the further consolidation of peace and security in Afghanistan.

The meeting also elected a seven-member peace jirgah from seven tribes of Jaji.

Soviet Central Asian Delegation Views Visit

LD052043 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Summary] A delegation from the Soviet Central Asia republics recently visited the DRA. The delegation was asked about their views on the visit to Afghanistan. Four members of delegation took part in this discussion. They were Timur Agzamovich Alimov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Tashkent obkom; Guldzhikon Babayena Babosadykova, secretary of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee and member of the Tajik Supreme Soviet; Beki Annayev, deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers; And Gulyam Zakhritdinovich Zakhoritdinov, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers.

Discussing the reason for their visit, a member of the delegation said:

Begin recording of unidentified speaker in Russian fading to Dari translation] "We came with goodwill to Afghanistan to see the situation in some regions of your country and to consolidate and expand mutual cooperation between our countries. Our 1-week visit to Afghanistan is a clear demonstration of Afghan-Soviet friendship." [end recording]

The delegation visited six provinces and was warmly welcomed. They gave details of their visits to schools, polyclinics, and textile firms, and talked to people who support the conclusions of the 20th PDPA plenum.

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker in Russian fading to Dari translation] "We believe in assistance, within the limits possible, both in training cadres and in the expansion of the health service network, the campaign against contagious diseases, and the further expansion of education." [end recording]

A member of the Uzbek delegation also spoke. He said:

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker in Russian fading to Dari translation] "You are aware, dear friends, that Afghanistan and Uzbekistan have a common border. They are connected by the Heratan Bridge. This bridge is a bridge of friendship and it is situated in such a manner that all our direct contacts, including economic, cultural, and others are provided by this bridge." [end recording]

The delegation noted that the people of Afghanistan are engaged in work and struggle for building a new society in their country.

Minister on 'Full Freedom' of Religion

LD080734 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 7, BAKHTAR — The people of Afghanistan are enjoying full freedom in performing their religious rites and traditions, said Abdol Jamil Zarifi, minister of Islamic affairs and trust properties of the DRA to a BAKHTAR reporter.

He added that the party and state assist the religious circles morally and materially. The proposal for setting up the Institute of Islamic Education, the holding of Islamic regional and international conferences, the promotion of the status of the Supreme Council of Scholars and Clergymen, which have been emphasized at the 16th Plenum of the PDPA CC, are all indicative of the fact that the party and state of the DRA pay great heed to the sacred religion of Islam and observe its principles.

The construction and equipping of the buildings for the Islamic Education Institute, for the religious schools, and others are envisaged in the socio-economic development plan of the country.

The expenditure of the revolutionary state for religious affairs amounted to 1250 million afghanis during 1981 to 1985, he recalled.

The activities of the party and state aimed at ensuring social justice and elimination of feudal relations are fully in conformity with the legitimate aspirations of the religious people of Afghanistan and the tenets of Islam.

Reportage on Operations by Armed Forces

Supply Base in Nangarhar Destroyed

LD070800 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 6, BAKHTAR — The largest supply base of the counter-revolutionaries in the Maru and Lagad areas of the grand district of Nazian in Nangarhar Province was destroyed by the heavy blows of the Armed Forces of the DRA.

With the help of their Western masters, the bandits had transformed the Maru and Lagad areas which are totally mountainous to their main hideouts and suppling base. The bandits were planning to disrupt the peaceful life of the residents of the Nangarhar Province through murder, arson, plunder, and other subversive activities. But, the vigilant Armed Forces of the DRA acted on time and annihilated the enemy by breaking their strongholds.

The combat activities of the Armed Forces of the DRA in Maru and Lagad areas of Nazian grand district in Nangarhar Province, similiar to the successful combat activities in Zhawara, Herat, Qandahar etc, clearly show that the Armed Forces of the DRA have now the strength to annihilate the enemies of the April Revolution and the people in every nook and corner of Afghanistan.

During the operaiton 4025 ground to ground rockets, 15 rocket launchers, 22 air defence units, two 62 mm cannons, 5 recoiless cannons with 4512 shells, 27 heavy machine guns with 7750 rounds of bullets, 3185 anti-vehicle mines, 1954 anti-personnel mines, 7 units of communication system, 3 mine reactors, 2 units of mines planting and exploding devices, 310 cases of different arsenal, 31 depots of arms and ammunition, 8 engineering depots, 6 depots of medicines, 7 clothing depots, 5 catering depots and an electric generator have been confiscated by the Armed Forces.

Also, 15 mortars, 14 anti-aircraft arms, 5 ground to ground rocket launchers, 5 recoiless cannons, 57 heavy machine guns, 350 arms of different make, 30 tons of food and catering, and other combat materials were destroyed during this operation.

Weapons Captured in Herat

LD070811 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 6, BAKHTAR — A large number of assorted weapons including one recoilless cannon, rocket launcher, American-make machine guns, 30 Egypt and Chinese-make Kalashnikovs, and a number of anti-state propaganda sheets were captured from the Afghan bandits as a result of the operation, carried out by the Armed Forces of the DRA with the close cooperation of the local residents in the suburbs of Keshk District of Herat Province, bordering Iran.

A counter-revolutionary armed group along with its ringleader and four others attached to Rabani criminal band were also crushed as a result of the operation.

Criminal Bands Crushed in Kuhestan

LD061918 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Another 3 groups of counterrevolutionaries, including Qayamoddin, Sayd Ahmad, and Qayam — the ringleaders of the criminal Golboddin and Rabani bands — were crushed in Kuhestan District, Kapisa Province, as a result of courageous attacks on their satanic nests by the Armed Forces. The BIA military correspondent reports that as a result of this victorious operation three armed bandits were arrested by the Armed Forces. The brave Armed Forces seized one DShK, 1 heavy machine gun, 7 various U.S. and Chinese-made weapons with a large amount of ammunition, a quantity of antigovernment leaflets, and the above bands' documents.

Mujahidin Attack Zabol Army Center; Raid Convoy

BK050809 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin have conducted an attack on an Army center at (Dayanchowk) subdivision in Zabol Province where several Soviet-Karmal troops were killed and a tank was destroyed. Twelve troops were captured. Another report says the Mujahidin also raided a convoy moving along Salang highway in (Tanjan) area of Baghlan Province causing damage to 8 tanks and 30 vehicles and eliminating most of the troops.

Mujahidin Reportedly Kill 14 Soviet-Kabul Troops

BK041324 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 4 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have killed 14 Soviet-Kabul troops in an attack in Khakriz subdivision of Qandahar on the 27th of last month.

A tank and two armored cars were destroyed. The Afghan freedom fighters also made a fierce attack on the Soviet-Kabul troops in (Dargai) area, destroying an ammunition depot.

Soviet-Kabul aircraft attacked rural localities near Charikar, the capital of Parvan Province, killing 3 civilians and injuring 17 others.

Congress-S Seeks 'Unity' With Congress-I

BK071609 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] The All India Congress-S Committee today unanimously adopted a resolution seeking unity with Congress-I at its meeting in Aurangabad. The resolution stated that the unity of the congress [party] is in the interest of the country. It also pointed out that the Congress-I headed by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, is the major congress party. Speaking at the end of the day's meeting, the Congress-S president, Mr Sharad Pawar, urged the party workers to work at the grass-roots level toward implementing the objective of united Indian National Congress. Mr Pawar announced that the unity resolution will be placed before the plenary session tomorrow for its adoption. The prime minister will address the plenary session, he said.

Resolution Adopted; Parties Merge

BK081324 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] The Congress-S has merged with the Congress-I. The plenary session of the Congress-S unanimously adopted a unity resolution at Aurangabad this afternoon. The resolution was moved by the party general secretary, Mrs Ambika Soni, and seconded by the Kerala PCC-S [Pradesh Congress Committee-S] president, Mr P.C. Chacko.

Delhi 'In Touch' With U.S., Canada on Terrorism

BK051237 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] There are reports that security agencies in the United States are on the lookout for several terrorists who have escaped from India and are wanted by the government. Confirming this in the Lok Sabha today, the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, told the House in a written reply that the government is in touch with the United States and Canada about various aspects of terrorist activity directed against India.

In reply to another question, the minister said the Bangladesh Government has been requested to prevent the activities of some Indian insurgent groups operating from their territory. Bangladesh has denied that Indian insurgents are receiving facilities. The House was also informed that the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Bangladesh president, General Ershad, have agreed that all the Chakma refugees will be repatriated to Bangladesh. In a written reply he said the two leaders arrived at this agreement during their talks at the time of Bangalore South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation summit.

Periodic Transit of U.S. Planes Reported

BK051235 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Both Pakistan and the United States have confirmed that American military aircraft periodically transit through Pakistan with the approval of the Pakistan Government, the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, informed the Lok Sabha today. Answering a question, he said Pakistan has denied giving bases to the United States. He said allowing such bases would not be in conformity with membership criteria of the Nonaligned Movement.

In reply to another question, Mr Tiwari said the government is aware that some U.S. naval ships were to visit Karachi last month, but their visit was postponed. The minister said government has been consistently against big power presence in our neighborhood.

Answering a question about Pakistan's acquiring Abram tanks from the United States, he said the government has seen such reports. All such developments are kept under constant review and appropriate measures are taken to ensure the country's defense preparedness.

Delhi Confirms Explosion at Nepal Mission

BK070646 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] A UNI *[United News of India]* report from Calcutta says there was a bomb explosion at the customs liaison office of a neighboring country [Nepal] on Friday night [5 December]. According to the agency, two Army personnel and three policemen were injured in the blast. Police have launched a search for a young man who had left his suitcase containing the bomb there. The bomb is reported to be of the same type which exploded in the office of the regional Hindi directorate sometime ago, killing two persons.

6 Killed in Violent Incidents in Delhi 5 Dec

BK051612 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Six people were killed in violent incidents outside Gurdwara [Sikh temple] Bangla Sahib in New Delhi this afternoon. According to police sources three men of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] died when a truck carrying four young men ploughed through their picket on the pavement outside the gurdwara. One of the occupants of the truck also died. Police had to open fire to control the mob killing two persons.

According to the police a few hundred persons had collected inside Gurdwara Bangla Sahib for taking out a procession on the occasion of Guru Teg Bahadur's martyrdom day. When the procession reached near Gol Dak Khana [post-office], some rumors were spread by two persons on a motorcycle. This inflamed the processionists and they ran back to Gurdwara Bangla Sahib. They started pelting stones on passing vehicles. Police used teargas and the situation was brought under control. But it again took an ugly turn when police had to resort to firing. Eleven persons, including four police officers, were injured. One subinspector received gun injury. Curfew was imposed in the area around Gurdwara Bangla Sahib to control the situation.

According to the police the situation is still tense but no untoward incident has been reported from any part of the city since then.

Intensive police patrolling is going on. Curfew in the Chandni Chowk area is also continuing. The lieutenant governor, Mr H.L. Kapoor, has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the violence. The additional district magistrate, Mr U.K. Vohra, will conduct the inquiry and submit his report within 1 month.

Police say that it was decided that a symbolic procession should be taken out from Gurdwara Sisganj on a route different from the traditional route. The procession started forming around 1200. Seeing this, a crowd started collecting from all sides of Chandni Chowk and indulged in heavy stone throwing. Police prevented the mob from indulging in any serious attack on the processionists. In the process of dispersing the crowd about 13 rounds were fired as warning shots preceeded by lathi [baton] charge at three places in the vicinity. Heavy police arrangement insured that the procession moved without hinderance. It started around 1430 from Gurdwara Sisganj and reached Tilak Marg around 1700.

AFP: 'Riot Police' Retaliate
BK051613 Hong Kong AFP in English 1505 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 5 (AFP) — Riot police killed at least four Sikhs in revenge after a truck driven by Sikhs crushed to death three policemen outside a Sikh temple here Friday, the police said. The truck drove at high speed out of Bangla Sahib Temple, where some 3,000 Sikhs had gathered, and crushed three members of the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), witnesses said. The three died later in hospital. CRPF riot men immediately began firing without orders at Sikhs on the walls of the temple complex and killed two, one a woman, the police said. A superintendent at the temple, Sukhjit Singh, said five Sikhs had been killed but this could not be confirmed.

The Army was ready to move in after the CRPF defied Delhi police orders and dragged the Sikh driver and his mate [as received] out of the cab and beat them to death. The *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported that two others in the truck were in hospital with serious injuries. A 13-year-old Sikh was shot through the neck, his mother said. An elderly blind Hindu was shot through the shoulder, the police said. PTI reported that a police inspector had been hit in the hand, apparently by shots fired from within the temple. Riot police also attacked and badly beat up three senior Delhi police riot officers, the police said.

The CRPF blamed the police for the deaths of their colleagues because they had not given the order to shoot at the truck. Paramilitary forces also set fire to the truck in the chaos that followed. Hindus outside also began attacking Sikhs in the street. The police said an official inquiry had been ordered. The Sikhs had gathered believing a planned religious procession through curfew-bound Old Delhi had been banned when stone-throwing began and the situation deteriorated, witnesses said.

Meanwhile, in Old Delhi, some 2,000 Hindus had assembled to protest at the procession when police finally granted permission for the march, from Sisganj Sikh Temple in the old city to another temple called Rakabganj in New Delhi. Police used teargas and fired at least six shots into the Hindu crowd after cane-charging failed to disperse them when they tried to get into Sisganj Temple, the police said. At least two Hindus were hit by bullets, the police said, but witnesses said many more appeared to have been injured. Deputy Police Commissioner Kiran Bedi and several other policemen were injured in the stone-throwing, the police said.

The 4,000-strong procession, protected by a heavy police escort, was allowed to start, despite the fact that it passed through an area under curfew, after the Hindus were dispersed. The marchers grew in numbers as they wound along an 11-kilometre (seven-mile) route to Rakabganj Temple, witnesses said. Marchers waved drawn swords, spears, and daggers and some chanted Sikh separatist slogans, but there was no violence as they entered the temple complex in darkness.

A curfew was imposed around Rakabganj Temple and orders issued banning the assembly of more than five people, the police said. An area of the old city here was brought under curfew late Tuesday after rioting, arson, and looting by thousands of Hindus protesting against the slaughter of 24 Hindus by Sikh militants in Punjab on Sunday.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi met Home Minister Buta Singh to review the situation as CRPF men were deployed across New Delhi. As the violence raged the heavy iron gates of Parliament close to Bangla Sahib Temple were locked to prevent any Sikh suicide drivers from entering the compound, PTI reported. Meanwhile in Punjab suspected Sikh militants killed a journalist and a village leader, PTI reported. Punjabi journalist Jagit Singh, shot near the border district of Gurdaspur Thursday, died of his wounds Friday and village chief Darshan Lal also died Friday of wounds he suffered Thursday. Paramilitary forces have been granted sweeping powers in the northern state, where the government has asked for Army help, as the killings mount, nearly fifty people have been killed since Sunday, which saw the worst single massacre in the five-year Sikh separatist campaign.

Curfew Around Temples 'Indefinite'
BK060905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] According to Delhi police, the situation in the capital is fully under control with no untoward incident reported from any part of the city since yesterday afternoon. Curfew was relaxed in the Chandni Chowk area for 2 hours from 0700 to 0900 [0130-0330 GMT]. Indefinite curfew, however, continues in the areas around the Gurdwaras Bangla Sahib and Rekabganj. The police sources said intensive patrolling is continuing as a precautionary step.

Army in 'Disturbed' Areas Denied
BK060859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The capital remained incident free last night after yesterday's violence in some areas in which six people were killed and several injured. Police described the situation as tense and said curfew is enforced in areas around Gurdwaras Bangla Sahib and Rekabganj. Curfew is also continuing in Chandni Chowk

area. The army has been put on alert and standby. [passage omitted]

The Union Home Ministry has clarified that the state governments are authorized to enforce rules framed by the center under the terrorist and disruptive activities prevention rule. An official release in New Delhi says by the making the rules, the center has only authorized the state governments to assume greater power in dealing with terrorism. It denied press reports that by declaring certain areas as disturbed, the Army has been called in.

AFP: Troops Move into Delhi Areas
BK061318 Hong Kong AFP in English 1307 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Dec 6 (AFP) — Troops in full battledress moved in to two tense areas of the Indian capital Saturday after Sikhs and riot police clashed Friday leaving seven people dead, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported. Troops were sent in to Gandhi Nagar in eastern New Delhi and Tilak Nagar in western New Delhi, PTI cited official sources as saying. Both areas have witnessed rioting, arson, and looting in the past week as Hindus protested the killing by Sikh militants of 24 Hindus in Punjab on Sunday. [passage omitted]

Some 35 people were arrested here for interrogation by a special intelligence wing dealing with Sikh militancy after Friday's violence at a Sikh shrine in central New Delhi, authorities said. [passage omitted]

'Over 100' Taken into Custody
BK061601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Delhi police say the overall situation in the capital is fully under control. No untoward incident was reported from any part of the city today. Intensive patrolling is continuing as a precautionary measure. Curfew was relaxed in Chandni Chowk for 2 hours each in the morning and in the afternoon. According to the police, the curfew in the Chandni Chowk and Bangla Sahib and Rekabganj Gurdwara areas will continue until further orders. Over 100 persons have been taken into custody by the police as a preventive step.

Troops Recalled; Curfew To Be Lifted
BK071605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] According to Delhi administration, there is marked improvement in the situation in the capital. The two columns of Army which were sent to Tilak Nagar and Gandhi Nagar police stations to standby as a precautionary measure have been sent back to their barracks. A police spokesman told our correspondent that curfew in areas around Bangla Sahib and Rakabganj Gurdwaras, which was imposed following Friday's incidents, will be lifted tomorrow morning at 0600 if the situation remains normal. The Chandni Chowk area curfew was relaxed today for 5 hours in the morning and in the afternoon. No untoward incident was reported today from any part of the city. The police authorities, however, are maintaining a constant vigil.

The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has said that the terrorist activities in Punjab are part of a deep-rooted conspiracy hatched abroad to destabilize the country. He told a delegation of Rashtriya Suraksha Samitty [National Security Committee] members from Punjab in New Delhi today that the center is keeping a close watch on the situation. He assured the delegation that terrorists will be dealt with ruthlessly and full protection will be provided to life and property of people. The minister said the grievances of the samitty will be taken up with the state government. The delegation also called on the prime minister and submitted a memorandum listing their grievances.

Curfew Lifted From Sikh Temple Areas
BK080319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] In Delhi, the curfew in the areas around the Bangla Sahib and Rakabganj Gurdwaras was lifted at 0600 this morning with the situation returning to normal. According to a police spokesman, a 3-hour curfew relaxation has been given from 0700 this morning in the Chandni Chowk area.

CRPF Defended as 'Competent'
BK080925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was officially informed today that the situation in Delhi is still tense but fully under control. Curfew has been withdrawn from all the areas where it was imposed after the incidents last Friday [5 December].

The minister of state for home, Mr Chidambaram, said in a statement that with the cooperation from and the restraint shown by all sections of the society in the capital, Delhi administration was able to control the situation quickly. He said the Army which was positioned in sensitive areas of west Delhi and east Delhi as a standby measure has been withdrawn. Replying to clarifications sought by members the minister assured the House that the government will be firm in maintaining law and order in Delhi and will step up its vigil against disruptive forces. He said during the last 2 days Delhi has been totally peaceful. Delhi administration and the police have performed creditably.

Mr Chidambaram strongly repudiated the opposition charge that there was indiscipline in CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] and said the charge is unwarranted. The CRPF has established itself as competent to protect the life and property of people, and its services will be utilized in Delhi whenever necessary. A similar statement was made in the Lok Sabha by the home minister, Mr Buta Singh.

Delhi Reports 'Mob Violence' in Bangalore

BK080252 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] In Karnataka, 6 persons have been killed and over 60 injured in yesterday's police firing and mob violence in Bangalore. At least four of them died when police opened fire. Our Bangalore correspondent reports that the violence occurred after mobs went on a rampage in protest against a story published in a local daily which hurt the communal sentiments. It continued till late last evening at Shivaji Nagar and Mahatma Gandhi Road areas. The police lathi [baton] charged the crowds and burst tear gas shells in an effort to control the violence. Thirty-one policemen were injured in the stone throwing. The police commissioner Mr (Halarankar) told our correspondent this morning that the situation is now fully under control.

Strike Held To Press for Assam Accord 8 Dec

BK080348 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] In Assam, a 12-hour statewide bundh [strike] is being observed from 0500 this morning to demand early steps from the center for the implementation of the Assam accord. It is being sponsored by the ruling Assam Gana Parishad [AGP]. Indian Airlines has canceled its flights to the state for the duration of the bundh. The northeast frontier railway have also canceled some of their trains and rescheduled others. However, essential services have been exempted. The AGP has appealed to the people to maintain peace during the bundh. Our Guwahati correspondent who went round the city this morning reports there were no signs of normal activity. [as heard]

GNLF, CPI-M Clash in West Bengal; 7 Injured

BK060911 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] In West Bengal, seven people are reported to have been injured and several houses set on fire in violent incidents between the so-called GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] activists and CPI-M supporters in (Shintang) tea estate of Darjeeling District yesterday. The police opened fire to control a rioting mob. A bundh [strike] was also observed in Darjeeling Town.

BSF Arrests 47 Pakistani Intruders in Punjab

BK061405 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] The Border Security Forces [BSF] arrested 47 persons on the India-Pakistan border in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to a BSF spokesman these persons were coming in from Pakistan and told the authorities that they had been pushed into India by Pakistani officials after they had served their sentences in the Mianwali jail in Pakistan. They included seven Bangladeshis.

Yaqub Khan Says U.S. Not Given Military Base

BK071658 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] The National Assembly today passed the Senate election amendment bill 1986. Earlier, the House was assured that the government will zealously guard Pakistan's sovereignty, independence, and freedom of action, and no compromise will be made on this account. The assurance was given by the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, while speaking on identical adjournment motions sought to be moved by Syedah Abida Hussain, Mr Jawed Hashmi, Mr Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar, Ray Ahmed Nawaz, and Mr Liaqat Baluch.

He categorically stated that there is no agreement for providing United States aircraft the use or access to Pakistan Air Force facilities, nor has the United States been granted any base in Pakistan. The foreign minister made it clear that American assistance does not impinge on the nonaligned status of Pakistan and there are no secret strings on the American assistance. The motions were ruled out of order by the chair.

Another adjournment motion sought to be moved by Mian Mohammad Zaman regarding Canada's refusal to provide technical assistance for running the Karachi nuclear power plant in 1976 was not pressed by the mover following a statement by Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

The National Assembly was informed during question hour that Pakistan and India are now engaged in a process of normalization of relations and the Kashmir dispute will be taken up in due course. The parliamentary secretary for cabinet, Rana Naim Mahmud, told the House that under the provisions of the Simla agreement, both countries are resolved to settle their differences by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations or by any other peaceful means mutually agreed upon between them.

Foreign Secretary Sattar Visits Moscow

BK071555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT7 Dec 86

[Text] Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar has arrived in Moscow on a 3-day official visit to the Soviet Union. On arrival in the Soviet capital last night, he was received by Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov and senior officials of the Foreign Ministry. He will have 2-day talks with the Soviet deputy foreign minister. The talks are expected to cover mainly the bilateral relations and the Afghanistan question. The foreign secretary is also expected to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze. Radio Pakistan's diplomatic correspondent says that the foriegn secretary's current visit to Moscow is the latest in a series of high-level bilateral contacts between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan had met with his Soviet counterpart Shevardnadze in New York in September and the head of the Southeast Asia Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry had also visited Pakistan for bilateral consultations.

Further Reportage on Visit by Iran's Khatami

Letter of Understanding Signed

LD051748 Tehran IRNA in English 1552 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 5, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan signed a letter of understanding which calls for cooperation in the fields of culture and science here Tuesday night. The letter of understanding is based on an agreement signed during President Khamene'i's visit to Pakistan in January 1986, and calls for bilateral cooperation in the field of science and culture.

It was also agreed that the Islamic Republic and Pakistan news agencies would extend mutual cooperation for an additional three years. The two sides will exchange radio programs and TV serials and cooperate in technical and specialist fields.

According to the letter the two sides will also hold film week in their countries.

Khatami Leaves Islamabad for Lahore

LD051750 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Dec 5, IRNA — Iranian Minister of Ershad-e Eslami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami and his accompanying delegation left here for Lahore Friday. Hoj. Khatami had met with the lender of the Pakistani Shi'ites Molana Aref Hussain [name as received] here on Wednesday night where the two discussed matters of mutual interest.

During his two-day visit here, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami met with Pakistan's President Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and submitted to them messages from their Iranian counterparts President Khamene'i and Prime Minister Musavi. Khatami had also met with Pakistani ministers of foreign affairs, culture and tourism, information and broadcasting, education and minorities. [passage omitted]

Holds Press Conference

LD070810 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Lahore, Dec 7, IRNA — Iranian Minister of Ershad-e Eslami Mohammad Khatami stressed here Saturday on the need for complete unity among Third World countries in order to fight against the aggression and exploitation of the big powers. He said the Islamic Republic of Iran has made tremendous devotion for the Islamic Revolution and naturally it would appreciate every step for Islamization in each and every country of the world, including Pakistan.

He made the remarks at a largely attended news conference in Lahore on the last leg of his visit to Pakistan, where he expressed hope that his visit would prove to be a great success in strengthening brotherly and friendly relations between Pakistan and Iran.

Khatami in his opening statement said the Islamic Revolution of Iran is a cultural one based on the teachings of Islam, and that it was not limited solely within the boundaries of the Islamic Republic of Iran, but had impressed the international community as well. Anti-Islamic forces are out to curb the cultural independence of the Third World and all the Muslims of the world should beware of these imperialist tactics, he said.

The Islamic Republic has given first and foremost priority to having friendship with countries which recognise the real bases of revolution that is Islam. Pakistan is included among those countries, he added.

He further added that the Islamic Republic of Iran is also a strong supporter of the Palestinian struggle to liberate occupied lands from the Zionist regime and that it will continue its help till Palestinian Muslims achieve final victory.

Replying to a question regarding Islamization in Pakistan, he said the Islamic Republic of Iran is bound to support every country including Pakistan, and that Iran prays for Pakistan's success.

On the Iraqi-imposed war, Khatami said that imperialist powers who were apparently and deadly against Islam imposed the war on Iran. Iran is not fighting to safeguard some particular land, rather it is fighting for the sake of Islam and Muslims according to the teachings of Koran and Sunnah. "We will carry on combatting the aggressor so long as the losses of this war are not redressed," he said.

Replying to a question on the so called supply of American weapons through Israel for Iran, Khatami said it was totally baseless. He said Iran will not compromise on her principles and will continue her struggle against international terrorism.

Talks With India on Border Crossing Slated
BK080428 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] Talks between Pakistan and India on all problems created by illegal crossing of the border will be held in Lahore on 19 December. A Foreign Office spokesman told Radio Pakistan's diplomatic correspondent that the date for the talks has been proposed by the Indian Government. There is no fixed agenda for the talks and the two sides will be able to discuss any issue relating to border security, illegal crossing of the border, smuggling of narcotics, and terrorism. Our diplomatic correspondent says that during their meeting last month Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had agreed to resume these talks.

Protest Lodged Over Afghan Shelling on Border
BK080234 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Najib administration of Afghanistan fired seven tank rounds, which landed 3 km northwest of Landi Kotal in the Khyber Agency, last Thursday [4 December], injuring six people. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday and a strong protest was lodged with him over this unprovoked attack.

Police Use Tear Gas on Striking Clerks in Quetta
BK080244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Text] A press note issued by the Quetta District magistrate says that some extremist colleagues of the striking clerks tried to form a procession yesterday, violating Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons at one place]. Police used tear gas to disperse the crowd. They also dispersed another group of striking clerks in another part of the city and arrested some persons.

The press note calls upon strikers to respect the law of the land and to refrain from holding public meetings and processions. The provincial government is sympathetically considering their demands and is always ready for talks with them.

NEPAL

Bomb Explodes at Consular Office in Calcutta

BK061537 Katmandu External Service in English
1415 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] A bomb explosion took place yesterday [5 Dec] evening at the customs liaison office of Royal Nepalese Consular General located at Alipore, Calcutta, according to the Foreign Ministry. The bomb went off at 2145 [1615 GMT] yesterday, [words indistinct] causing injuries to the security people, including Lieutenant [name indistinct] whose left arm has been severely damaged, says the Foreign Ministry. No other injury or serious damages to property has been (?reported, it said).

The Foreign Ministry, quoting the report received from the Royal Nepalese consul general, (V.P. Pandey), on the same incident [words indistinct] the explosion of the bomb said that at about 1445 [0915 GMT] a Bengali speaking man came to the customs liaison office making inquiries about visa regulations. On (?being informed) by the doorman on checking that the visa section was located elsewhere, the man departed from that place but asked the doorman to look after the briefcase which he had been carrying. When after half an hour the man did not return to claim the briefcase, the customs liaison office informed the police who came almost immediately to examine the briefcase. On being opened the briefcase was found to contain a time bomb and a piece of paper with inscription Banga Jagaran [word indistinct] Zindabad. [Rise Bengal...Long Live] The police thereafter cordoned off the area and altered other security authority. [Words indistinct] force arrived at the (?place) around 2130 [1550 GMT]. While the bomb was being defused, it went off.

SRI LANKA

Curfew Imposed on Batticaloa Following Killings

BK061318 Colombo Domestic Service in English
1245 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] With the terrorists killing seven Muslim home guards and the wife and a child of a home guard, a curfew has been imposed in the [name indistinct] district of Batticaloa from 1500 today to 1800 tomorrow [0930 to 1230 GMT].

Speaker Announces Limits on Parliamentary Reporting

BK041352 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 4 Dec 86

[Text] The speaker, E.L. Senanayake, announced in parliament this morning that any visitor to the parliamentary gallery is not authorized to take written notes of the proceedings. Only Hansard news reporters and media personnel permitted by the speaker will be allowed to report on parliamentary proceedings from the reporters' gallery. Mr Senanayake told the house that the head of the Israeli interest section has apologized to him for taking notes of discussions on the vote of the Foreign Ministry recently.

The speaker made the statement in reply to a question raised by the M.P. for Athanagalle, Lakshman Jayakody, during the committee state discussion of the votes of the Foreign Ministry in parliament last Friday. [28 November].

Khamene'i on Insistance of Neighborly Relations

LD051611 Tehran IRNA in English 1524 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 5, IRNA — Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Friday that the Islamic Republic had scored the biggest ever victory against the United States by offering a blunt no to the U.S. advances last month. He said the central issue in the clandestine approaches to Iran by Washington was not the arms sales to Iran but rather a desperate effort by the U.S. Government to resume relations with the Islamic government.

President Khamene'i, who was sermonizing to a multitudinous group of worshippers at and around Tehran University campus at noon Friday said, immediately after U.S. designs to resume relations with Iran proved a failure, Washington launched a propaganda campaign for obscuring the central issue and driving the people's attention solely to purported arms sales to Iran.

Khamene'i said even though Iran should have received U.S. arms this is no big issue. "If they think," said Khamene'i "other countries should not give weapons to Iran which might serve to prolong the war, well then first and foremost they should not provide weapons to the belligerent government in Iraq."

Addressing himself to the Persian Gulf supporters of the Baghdad regime, President Khamene'i said the Islamic government does not advocate war and insists on good neighbourly relations "like members of one and the same family" with all her neighbours, but he added the Baghdad regime is too fickle to be able to survive by relying on external financial support.

Khamene'i said the "arrogant world powers" need the Third World countries more than the Third World countries need those powers, noting that as such the peoples and governments of the Third World countries should learn a lesson from Iran's firm resistance against those powers.

Elsewhere in his second sermon at Friday congregational prayers here Khamene'i criticized "sold elements calling themselves Palestinian leaders and enjoying themselves in foreign travels" who fan the fire of the camps war in Lebanon. He said if those people sincerely mean to fight the enemies of Palestinians they should have struggled when they were in Lebanon. He called on Muslims in south Lebanon to aim their guns at the Zionists and the Qods-occupying regime and discontinue the infighting among themselves.

President Khamene'i said the Islamic government has sent a delegation to Lebanon with the idea of stopping the camps war. He said the Islamic Republic condemns any group in Lebanon which should initiate a fight with other Muslims there.

Elsewhere the president lauded the Mohammad (SAW) Corps of one hundred thousand volunteer infantrymen and said the mobilization of the corps speaks for the capacity of the Islamic Republic to hold out in the war, and for the resolve of the Iranian nation to witness an eventual victory in the war with the Iraqi Government.

U.S. Arms Said Bought Through Arms Broker

LD051832 Tehran IRNA in English 1822 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 5, IRNA — In an interview with the press here Thursday night Majlis Speaker and spokesman of the Supreme Defence Council Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani called on the Persian Gulf states to "learn from their elder brother" and do not involve themselves with the Baghdad government. He predicted that in a near future oil sales to the benefit of Iraq by "certain Persian Gulf states" would be discontinued.

Iran's Majlis speaker said foreign governments and among them the French and U.S. governments now concede that the Baghdad regime stands no chance of survival in the war with Iran. He said the acknowledgement by certain U.S. officials and others of Iraq having been the aggressor party in the war with Iran has paved the way for the "punishment" of the Iraqi Government.

Rafsanjani said because the Baghdad government is confused and helpless in its war with Iran it has tried time and again to involve other Persian Gulf states in a bid to foment agitation and pave the way for the interference in the Persian Gulf by the superpowers.

Asked to comment on foreign media reports on an alleged Washington-endorsed arms sales to Iran last week, Rafsanjani rejected them as a U.S.-lead propaganda campaign for driving world attention away from the gist of the issue which is the fiasco of Washington's desperate efforts for a rapprochement with Iran.

Rafsanjani said in their secretive designs for a rapprochement with the Islamic government the Americans had acted awkwardly and utterly bungled. He said contrary to foreign media reports of U.S. arms sales to Iran, the U.S. arms in question were purchased from an arms broker and not from the U.S. Government.

The Majlis speaker said the arms broker had promised to sell the weapons at official U.S. prices to Iran but that because later on he demanded extra amounts, the Islamic government refused to pay the differential which is "something to the tune of fifteen million U.S. dollars."

Rafsanjani reminded that the larger part of Iran's military hardware are made in the United States and that to hold out in the war Iran has to procure its needed U.S. weapons from sources which may in some way or other have connections with the United States. He said since the outbreak of the war Iran has procured U.S.-made weapons through arms brokers and that the last air-lift of such weapons to Iran was no exception.

The Majlis speaker said if anything the fiasco of U.S. efforts for rapprochement with Iran signifies the fact that Washington has succumbed to Iran and that its overt recognition of the Islamic Republic as the most powerful Persian Gulf state and of the advisability of resuming relations with Iran proves the awe Iran has inspired in Washington.

Rafsanjani said the Americans are unwarrantedly seizing Iran's assets in the United States, but that to get back such assets Iran

does not have to negotiate with U.S. officials but that the various international forums such as The Hague Court would serve the purpose.

Editor Says Majlis Speaker Revealed Arms Sale

NC070918 Paris AFP in English 0910 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Beirut, Dec 7 (AFP) — The editor of the Lebanese weekly *Al-Shira'*, which was the first to publish revelations on the U.S. arms sales to Iran on November 4, has told *Agence France-Presse* he got his scoop from close contacts within the Iranian leadership, currently in the grip of a serious power struggle.

Hasan Sabra, 38, said he was on good terms with supporters of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, who has been designated by Iran's Assembly of Experts to succeed Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni as the country's spiritual leader. He said the group included the imam's son Sheykh Mohammad, who was killed in 1981, and one of his closest aides, Sheykh Mehdi Hashemi, who was recently arrested and stripped of his post as head of the Office of Liberation Movements, which controls the Revolutionary Guards. Half a dozen of Ayatollah Montazeri's close associates were arrested last month and there have been reports of a power struggle over the succession with Parliamentary Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani as the rival candidate.

Sheykh Hashemi is a fierce opponent of contacts with the "great satan" (the United States) and it was through him that Mr Sabra was tipped off about the arms sales. Mr Sabra said that after Mr Hashemi was arrested, he was contacted by envoys from Ayatollah Montazeri. They told him that Washington had delivered arms to Tehran on condition that Iran undertook to stop helping liberation movements around the world and put Sheikh Hashemi under arrest. He said the envoys asked him to publish the information and pass it on to other Lebanese papers. "It was a heavy responsibility to take, but I was sure of my sources, scenting a scoop. I promised to do so on condition that I had an exclusive, although I passed on the information about Hashemi's arrest to other papers."

Mr Sabra promised there would be further revelations. He said contrary to some reports, Sheykh Hashemi was still behind bars and had changed prisons twice. "The conflict between the radical Hashemi group, which preaches exporting the Iranian revolution, and the more pragmatic group of Parliamentary Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, goes back to the beginning of the revolution. But it has been tempered by common allegiance to Ayatollah Khomeyni," he said.

Mr Sabra's paper is left-wing, with a circulation of 25,000, and is distributed through all the Arab countries except Libya and South Yemen.

Majlis Deputies Questioning Khomeyni Viewed

PM050917 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 23 Nov 86, p 2

[Unidentified *Keyhan* correspondent's report on 23 November Majlis session]

[Excerpts][Passage omitted] Majlis Deputy from Neyshabur 'Ali Shushtari was the first speaker before today's main Majlis agenda. [passage omitted]

He commented on the U.S. admission about the role and importance of Iran's position in the region and Iran's victories in its struggle against the United States. He said: This victory has created a lot of noise in the world. This has gone so far that Reagan, in order to prevent a disgraceful defeat, has accepted his failure and has said that he alone is responsible. The White House has been turned into a black house and this is the way it will stay forever.

The deputy from Neyshabur then commented on Unity Week and said: The main point of this unity is to follow the Faqih, the imam of the nation. Have you yourselves safeguarded this unity? Has functionalism ended? In a country whose goals are clear and whose leader's orders are absolute, what has caused these rift-creating issues to be brought up and disseminated in an honest society? Do those who bring up these issues not know why their comments are published? Are they published in order to advance the goals of the revolution or to prevent the progress of the revolution?

Shushtari continued: Despite the fact that the imam made some comments and advised us at the beginning of the second Majlis session, why is it that there is still one group which will not give up? Despite his patience, the leader of the revolution starts shouting "Your tone of voice in the Majlis is even harsher than that of Israel, and the palace-dwellers."

What excuse could those addressed here by the imam have for their behavior? Would it not have been wiser to have taken the initial hints and to make some changes in their way of thinking? What goals are they hoping to achieve with their rift-creating and with their disobedience of the Faqih? Maybe they will say it is their duty as Majlis deputies, that the Constitution has given them the right. We deputies know well that before being Majlis deputies we are, above all, other orders. This is the whole philosophy behind Velayat-e Faqih.

The deputy from Neyshabur continued: The illegal trip by the Americans to Iran and the reaction of Islamic Iranian officials have confused the world. This is a sign of the greatness of the Islamic Revolution and the disgrace of the United States. Why do they hurt Muslims and Islam when they know that the people would not exchange 1 minute of the imam's life for all of ours. Despite the clear warning of the leader of the revolution concerning some newspapers [reference to *Resalat*, which welcomed the sharp drop in oil prices] this same newspaper still makes headlines out of differences. [passage omitted]

Mehdi Shamlu was the last pre-agenda speaker in today's Majlis session. [passage omitted]

He said: What is regrettable is that some Majlis deputies have asked the foreign minister about McFarlane's trip to Iran. This question hurt the imam so badly that he clearly said "Your tone of voice in the Majlis is harsher than that of Israel and the palace-dwellers." Who are these deputies and what are they hoping to achieve by asking such questions? [passage omitted]

The Iranian people should know that the small minority in the Majlis is separate from the rest of the assembly. Shamlu added: The Iranian people should know that this Majlis is not a place for the likes of Bagha'i Kermani. The Iranian people should know that last year, following the imam's clear support for the prime minister, this minority and their clique, in order not to obey the Faqih, raised the issue of "orders" and "advice." They said that the imam's comments were not "orders" but were just "advice." This is how they found a religiously acceptable scapegoat for their negative votes and abstentions. This is why they put ninety-nine negative votes in the pot. The Iranian people should know that at that time the Hezbollah faction in the Majlis decided to take a firm stance with regard to these people who stand against the imam. The majority of these are known to the people. Despite this, the Hezbollah faction remained silent on the imam's orders in order to safeguard unity and for the interests of the Islamic Republic. [passage omitted]

The deputy from Malayer then read out the question posed by the eight Majlis deputies: In connection with all the recent propaganda inside and outside the country concerning relations with the U.S. Administration, would you please announce at what level these contacts took place. We add that since the Majlis had absolutely no information about these activities, what authority or officials decided on these contacts and relations?

Shamlu added: With regard to the depth of such words as "activities" and concerning the aims of those posing this question, the question becomes clear. [passage omitted]

He said: The Iranian people should know that last year the Majlis handed a letter to the imam with 135 signatures and following that gave a vote of confidence to the government. This majority continues to move along the path of the Velayat-e Faqih. I must warn the Iranian people to identify and recognize the eight deputies and their friends and dissociate themselves from them. The people should make these eight understand, with their votes for the third Majlis, that this assembly is not a place for those who will not listen to the orders of the respected imam. If the people act in any other way, the blood of the martyrs will have been wasted.

These people should know that this Majlis is not one to give permission for renewed relations with the United States while it has greedy intentions toward Iran or until such time that the United States comes to its senses. [passage omitted]

The deputy from Malayer added: Looking at the third part of the question, it appears the eight deputies presumably had information that the Foreign Ministry did not have previous knowledge of the question of the trip by Reagan's envoy. This is because the question posed says: It has been heard that people outside the Foreign Ministry contacted the U.S. delegation and held talks with them.

In reality, posing this question /*Keyhan* writes that at this point several deputies shouted objection] means questioning the prime minister himself. It means questioning the speaker of the Majlis who announced details of the trip on 13 Aban [4 November] and it means questioning the respected president. It means bringing into question the entire regime of the Islamic Republic.

The deputy from Malayer continued: Posing this query means bringing into question this victory which the imam mentioned when he said Iran's indifference toward the White House was more important than all other victories. [passage omitted]

Shamlu then asked the speaker of the Majlis to preserve the respect of the parliament and, in order to preserve its dignity, to announce his own position and say what the Majlis should do with the eight deputies in question. He added: If this does not happen, the [other] deputies themselves will know what to do with them. [passage omitted]

Propaganda, 'Lies' Against Tehran Viewed
LD051825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0400 GMT 5 Dec 86

[From the "Review of Foreign Radio" program]

[Excerpts] Although a month has passed since the revelation of Washington's attempts to establish relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, political and propaganda turmoil is still continuing at an ever-increasing pace inside the U.S. Government and the West, and is moving toward an unknown and uncertain future without anyone being able to control it. For us who are witnessing these events from outside the center of the storm and from beyond the political and propaganda battles, it is quite clear that the clouds are getting thicker and the climate darker and darker in Washington. All this is due to their habit of lying. In fact, the whole West is paying for its lies and it seems that it has to pay a heavy price.

In the past, Western arrogance has directed many plots against the Islamic Revolution. After the victory of the Islamic Revolution the West did not refrain from any kind of lies, false allegations, or conspiracies against it. Allegations such as describing Iran as a terrorist country, the violation of human rights in Iran, having relations with Israel, political isolation of Iran, and so forth were initiated in the West, mainly in Washington. However, all these allegations are now being questioned in the wake of Reagan's attempts to establish relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and have been proved to be mere lies. Contradictions between those false allegations and the United States's recent action constitute a major part of the present problems faced by Washington, which can be described as retribution for its lies. [passage omitted]

Without having learned any lessons from these events, the Westerners are again resorting to the same weapon of lies for which they are paying such a heavy price, merely because they do not have the courage of merely admitting that they had been mistaken in the past. There is no doubt that the present lies of Washington will further complicate the crisis in that country and will direct it toward an unknown and uncertain future with no one able to control it. [passage omitted]

The Americans are lying because they lack the courage to admit that they have been wrong in the past. There are also other people who repeat these lies because they are pursuing other goals. For instance, the Russians repeat these lies in order to use these issues against their rival, as well as in order to justify their aggression

and crimes in some parts of the world such as Afghanistan. It is interesting to note that during the past few years Moscow's propaganda policy has been to portray the struggles of the Muslim people of Afghanistan as being somehow dependent upon the United States. Through these means, Russian leaders have tried to justify their aggressive policies and to cover up their expansionist goals and aspirations. At the same time, Moscow has tried to justify the innumerable crimes that have been committed by the Red Army or their local mercenaries in Afghanistan, by describing them as a campaign against bandits or against U.S. agents and so on. In view of these propaganda ploys one can easily grasp the reason for Moscow's enthusiasm to make use of the lies of Western propagandists as confirmation of its former and present claims. By relying upon these Western lies about the so-called sale of weapons to Iran by the United States in order to pass them on to the Islamic resistance fighters in Afghanistan, Moscow has hypocritically engaged in an extensive propaganda campaign. While trying to cast doubt upon the strategic policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran about the Islamic resistance in Afghanistan, Moscow is also trying to portray the Islamic resistance of the people of Afghanistan as being dependent upon the United States. [passage omitted]

While Kremlin leaders are fanning the flames of Western lies, they are trying to achieve their vile regional and global goals by making use of the present poisonous propaganda climate in the United States and the West. The other reason that tempts Moscow radio to make the maximum use of the false reports being spread in the West against the Islamic Republic is their fear of the spread of the idea among various nations, including the deprived Muslim people of Afghanistan, that in the polarized world of the 20th century one can remain independent and that even, through steadfastness and self-sacrifice, one can force one's sworn enemies to surrender. In any case, these motivations have prompted Moscow to join her voice to that of the Western propagandists and to join them in incessantly repeating the false reports emanating from the Americans, and to further embellish and exaggerate those reports in order to deceive world public opinion.

With similar or different motivations, international Zionism is also repeating the lies being perpetrated in Washington and the West. Their main aim is to defame the Islamic Republic by attaching the disgraceful stain of having relations with Israel to it. The Zionists, who feel greatly endangered by the Islamic Republic, are trying to sow seeds of suspicion in public opinion of the Muslim nation about the sincerity of the words and deeds of the Islamic Republic, and are trying to prevent the achievement of Islamic unity against Zionism. Some other second-rate political goals also tempt the Zionists to spread the lies of world arrogance and even to take a leading role in perpetrating them. This is a fact that can be seen in the confused climate that has been created by special Zionist wings within the U.S. Government. The greatest part of the lies that are spread about relations between Israel and Iran emanate from those sources. One can easily see how the Zionists mastermind this hostile propaganda. The tricks being played inside occupied Palestine by the leaders of the Zionist regime are also within the same framework and with the same clear and exposed goals. [passage omitted]

With such ridiculous shows which are more like masquerades, the leaders of the Zionist regime are trying to confuse public opinion and keep alive the comic scenario of Israeli links with Iran. What is also very interesting in this is the hue and cry that has been raised by Arab reactionaries with special motivations who, jointly with Americans, Westerners, and Zionists, are repeating false tales about links between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Israel. Although the Syrian officials, who are in the front line of battle against Israel, have ridiculed and rejected these rumors, a group of sultans and shaykhs who for years have approvingly smiled at the Zionists and who are either overtly or covertly engaged in wheeling and dealing with that regime are stepping up these ludicrous propaganda lies about links between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Israel. It is interesting that Mikhail Yuhanna 'Aziz [Tariq 'Aziz], the Zionist foreign minister of the regime ruling over Iraq, whose ancestors were all Jewish, has expressed his concern for the Islamic conference and for Muslims, and proposes his solutions. [passage omitted]

Arab reactionaries who, following the success of the Islamic Revolution, see that their thrones are in great danger are trying to justify their abject and submissive positions toward the United States and Israel by stepping up these propaganda lies to fool public opinion. [passage omitted]

Therefore, as you can see, various trends belonging to the East, the Zionists, and Arab reactionaries, each with their different and at times common reasons and motivations, spread the lies the Westerners have concocted in order to evade the need to confess that they have been mistaken in their policy toward the Islamic Republic. The combination of all this collusion and conspiracy has given rise to the present poisonous atmosphere which is increasing the crisis inside the United States and is directing events in an uncontrollable direction.

In any case, in this chaotic marketplace in which all the leftist, rightist, Zionist, and reactionary elements are trying to achieve some base goals in order to make use of the U.S. political disgrace, poor Reagan has lost the initiative and has become a victim of the political storm produced by his friends and foes alike. [passage omitted]

While America's Black House is faced with an unprecedented crisis, Reagan's attacks on the propaganda organizations of that country, comparing them to sharks that have scented blood, is most interesting. In his interview with *Time* magazine Reagan said that there is bitter bile in his throat as the result of the recent events and that he now finds himself surrounded by sharks. Reagan's remarks remind us of the Persian saying about the tailor who fell into the pot.

Mr Reagan and his government, who in the past by making use of the same sharks tore their opponents to pieces in different parts of the world, today find themselves surrounded by the same sharks. Today when they find themselves in this desperate plight they realize how vile and ferocious Western propaganda agencies really are. At the same time, they should also become aware of the greatness and strength of the opponents of the United States, who despite these ravenous beasts, have been able to consolidate their positions. [passage omitted]

Former Prime Minister on War, Khomeyni

AU061601 Rome ANSA in English 0836 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text](ANSA) Rome, December 5 — Deep divisions exist within the Iranian clergy over political and social issues as well as the ongoing war with Iraq, former Iranian Premier Mehdi Bazargan said in an interview published Friday by the Rome daily *Il Messaggero*. Bazargan, 76, led the first revolutionary government in Iran and is presently the leader of the Iranian National Liberation Movement, the only opposition group allowed to have an office in Tehran.

"To continue the war with Iraq," the ex-premier maintained, "means to bring economic disaster to the nation.... Our government must begin diplomatic initiatives and prepare the people with an appropriate campaign". "If the war should suddenly end without adequate preparation," Bazargan continued, "the government would risk losing its credibility among the people who have been promised sure victory over Iraq. The dilemma would be diabolic".

According to Bazargan, the clergy has been able to maintain support for the war effort by appealing to the public's deep religious faith. "On the other hand," he affirmed, "martyrdom is one of the fundamental dogmas of the Shi'ite Moslem clergy".

On the figure of Ayatollah Khomeyni, Bazargan affirmed that he accepted him as the leader of the Iranian Islamic Revolution recognised by the Constitution, but questioned his "divine" authority. "We are totally opposed to these concepts that give him supernatural powers and elevate him on the level with God," Bazargan concluded.

Velayati Comments on Cease-Fire in Lebanon

LD051824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent, Foreign Minister Velayati commented on the cease-fire agreement between the warring parties in Lebanon proposed by the Islamic Republic. He said the main enemy of all Muslims, Arabs, and Palestinians is the regime usurping Jerusalem, and all the bullets must be fired at this enemy. The clashes between the Muslim Lebanese and Palestinian forces are a grave tragedy for the enhancement of the anti-Zionist struggles. The Islamic Republic of Iran will exert maximum effort to halt the current clashes in Lebanon and to concentrate and direct the efforts of the warring parties to fight against the occupying regime in Palestine. We express our gratitude to the warring parties, including the Amal and the Palestinian groups, for accepting the Islamic Republic's proposal to end hostilities.

He also commended the Shi'ite and Sunni ulema as well as other groups, particularly the Amal group, for their efforts and cooperation in ending hostilies. Velayati added: Israel and its benefactor, the United States, are enaged in implementing an extensive plot against Lebanon. We believe that the hostilities began through their [word indistinct] and preparations as well as those of their agents. During the period when hostilities were in progress, the Zionists and their lackeys have not been the target of any real attacks. Consequently, they are trying to foil any attempt to establish a cease-fire or to have hostilites resumed once a cease-fire is established.

The regime occupying Jerusalem is trying to create divisions between all the fighters — division and hostilities between the Lebanese and Palestinian forces; between the Palestinian people and Palestinian forces; between the Shi'ite and Sunni forces; and between the Shi'ite and Palestinian forces. Having said that, it is therefore the duty of all Muslims to be alert and to foil all these plots. They must channel all their power and might to fight the regime occupying Palestine.

The foreign minister then said: We condemn any hostility and the killing of innocent people. We issue this warning: They must refrain from manipulating human beings in order to achieve their personal objectives and goals.

The Palestinian nation must remain united and begin a relentless fight against the regime occupying Jerusalem, shoulder to shoulder with the Muslim Lebanese fighters; they must reject the elements betraying the sacred aspiration for Palestine. As for the Muslims in south Lebanon, they must realize their historical and strategic role in annihilating and destroying the Zionist regime. They must foil the attempts being made by the warmongers who are trying to divert the struggle against the Zionists into hostilities against the Palestinians.

Velayati continued: In order to achieve the sacred goal of fighting the Zionist regime and ending the present clashes between the combative forces, the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its unceasing efforts. The Islamic Republic of Iran calls on the Lebanese ulema and clergy to step up their efforts within that context. The monolithic presence of the Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims in controlling and resolving the existing difficulties is a necessity. It is then up to the Palestinian ulema to step up their efforts in order to reawaken the people and to strengthen the struggle against the occupying forces.

It is also their responsibility to expose those devious characters who ostensibly claim to be fighting Israel, but who in truth are engaged in preparing the ground to come to terms with the Zionists.

'So-Called' Leaders Against Ending Camps War

LD071914 Tehran IRNA in English 1851 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — Those bent on rejecting a ceasefire in Lebanon are in fact seeking a way to renew their political life and prolong the massacre of Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims, an IRNA commentator on Lebanese affairs said here Sunday.

While the Muslim people and progressive states and forces in the region are demanding an end to the civil war in Lebanon and wish to see a peaceful coexistence between the Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims in their joint struggle to liberate Islamic lands, the compromising wing of Yasir 'Arafat and the reactionary states see their abject interests in resumption of a Lebanese-Palestinian war.

The belligerent parties to the fighting agreed to cease armed hostilities since Friday, upon the initiative of the Islamic Republic and with the backing of progressive Syria and Libya, in an effort to pave the way for an overall solution to the conflict. The warring factions involved in the fighting, that is the Amal Movement, the Palestinian National Salvation Front, the Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine, positively responding to the Iranian proposal, have in fact reaffirmed their determination to put an end to these suspicious and unpopular clashes. However, the heroic people of Palestine are once again being stabbed in the back by a group ostensibly dedicated to Palestine's liberation but refusing to halt the massacres and explicitly rejecting an end to the hostilities. Those who proved for years that they were not brave enough to encounter the enemy in a revolutionary manner and who are instead begging Israel to grant the liberation of dear Qods, have declared that they want the 'camps wars' to continue.

Many of the progressive forces have believed since the beginning that a hegemonist group claiming to be "leaders" of the Muslim and heroic nation of Palestine, funded with Arab petro-dollars and assisted by regional reaction and even signatories of the Camp David accord, is responsible for the outbreak of the hostilities. These so-called leaders are the same who in time of battle with the enemy fled the scene and left the Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine alone before the Zionist wolves. Perhaps the most significant reason for the victory of the heroic Lebanese Muslims and defeat of the occupier Zionist troops, was because these gallant freedom fighters did not allow themselves to be stabbed from behind by these so-called leaders.

Following the flight of these false leaders from the ranks of the Palestinian heroes, others rose up and by negating these so-called leaders indulged in true combat with the enemy. This is why those who hoisted the banner of struggle against Israel, are now opposed to the 'camps war' and to the massacre of the defenceless people of Lebanon. The bankrupt and compromising group favouring the hostilities is willing, for the sake of having a presence in the political scene of [passage indistinct]

Although there is a relative peace in the war-shattered Lebanon thanks to the initiative of the Islamic Republic, reaction and the compromising group are plotting to destroy it. The Iranian proposal once again makes distinctions between the revolutionary and counterrevolutionary ranks. On the one hand there are groups who have placed their hope in the liberation of the Muslim people of Palestine and Lebanon and are preparing for a joint struggle against Zionism, while on the other, these are sold-out and fainthearted "leaders" who have resorted to massacring the Lebanese and Palestinian people in an attempt to abandon true struggle and accomplish their mean political objectives.

For some time there had been many reports on a deal between the so-called Palestinian leaders, Amin Gemayel (who has now perhaps joined the rank of the Palestinians), the mercenary regime in Baghdad, and the entire reaction and their masters. The objective was to shatter the heroic resistance of the combatant groups so that the aggressor Israeli regime might respond positively to their desperate request for negotiations. Nonetheless, those who have placed their hope in liberation of Lebanon and Palestine and in the defeat of the occupiers, smashed the bridges of submission and compromise and thus hoisted the banner of combat against Israel.

The compromising group is desperately claiming that beyond the proposal to end the hostilities there is a plot to "forestall the Arab foreign ministers meet", which is to be held upon a request by this hypocrite group to consider its proposal for "ending the hostilities". If this gathering is to be held in a bid to end the conflict, then what do they mean by "plot"? This claim once again proves that the compromising group beyond this 'diplomatic gesture' is in fact trying to score some as yet unknown goal and that it does not care the least about the massacre of innocent Lebanese and Palestinians.

If the ceasefire is established and preserved and if the Iranian proposal is implemented, then the Muslim people of Palestine and Lebanon and all the progressive nations and governments must be congratulated for cooperating in the joint struggle against the Zionist enemy. The unity of the combatant forces will undoubtedly lead to the liberation of the occupied lands in Lebanon and Palestine, and eventually of the dear Qods. But if and when the fighting is resumed the responsibility will rest entirely on those war-mongers and mercenaries who explicitly rejected the ceasefire. In that case, disgrace and scandal would certainly be what they should suffer from.

It may take time, but the Muslim and anguished but heroic people of Lebanon and Palestine will eventually realize this trend. On that day, hopefully in a not-too-distant future, and at the cost of the lives of a group of the best children of the Islamic nation, the path will eventually be recognized — the path of liberation of Qods through unity.

Finance Minister, Soviet Envoy View Cooperation

LD061727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] The Soviet ambassador in Iran met with Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Mohammad Javad Iravani this afternoon and discussed the expansion of economic, technical, and trade cooperation between the two countries. The two also discussed and exchanged views on the 10th session of the Islamic Republic-Soviet Permanent Commission for Economic Cooperation. The session is to be held in Tehran 8-12 December 1986.

Economic Delegation Leaves for Khartoum

LD061110 Tehran IRNA in English 0940 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 6, IRNA — An Iranian economic delegation headed by deputy minister of mines and metals for coordination and parliamentary affars, Hoseyn Hashemi, left Tehran for Khartoum, Sudan Saturday morning. The delegation comprising representatives of Ministries of Mines and Metals, Construction Jihad, Foreign Affairs, and Commerce, is to pave the way for the impending joint Iran-Sudan economic meeting.

During the one-week visit the delegation will follow up articles of a letter of understanding signed in September by mines ministers of the two countries and will review grounds for future

cooperation. Members of the delegation will also hold talks with Sudanese ranking officials.

British Unions Agree to Redefined War Zone

LD061206 Tehran IRNA in English 1628 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] London, Dec 3, IRNA Britain's main seafarers' unions have agreed to accept the offer, proposed by the General Council of British Shipping (GCBS), to extend the war zone in the Hormuz Straits.

National secretary of the National Union of Maritime, Aviation, and Shipping Transport Officers (NUMAST), told IRNA Wednesday that it had accepted the GCBS proposal to include Larak Island, Hormuz Island, and Bandar-e 'Abbas. "The new zone up to 56 Degrees 30 minutes east longitude will be effective from 00.01 GMT Thursday," he said. The seaman had been pressing to have the war zone moved further east to 56.35 degrees, to include more of the Straits of Hormuz and for vessels going into Dubai dry dock. This followed an Iraqi air attack on 3 ships near Larak terminal on November 25.

Britain's other main union, the National Union of Seamen (NUS) has also accepted the shipping council's offer, although it was concerned that vessels going into Dubai dry dock are excluded from the zone.

The agreement means that British seamen will receive extra payments in the extended area. The previous zone was up to 56 degrees east.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqis Bomb Park 5 Dec

LD051636 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Dec 5, IRNA — A group of children were martyred and wounded when intruding Iraqi war planes bombed a children's park in Haft Tappeh at 14:00 hours local time (10:30 GMT) Friday. The children accompanied by their parents were playing in the park at the time of bombing. Four martyrs and seven wounded had been identified as of 12:30 hours, most of them children. The Iraqi planes bombed the park while being fully aware that the park is usually crowded on holidays.

Iraqi Bakhtaran, Basra Positions Hit

LD051652 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 5, IRNA — Artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions in Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts killed or wounded 18 enemy soldiers Thursday and Friday. A munitions dump, a military vehicle, and two bunkers of the Iraqi troops were also set afire in the shelling.

Meanwhile, five Iraqi bunkers, two gun emplacements, and a fuel tanker were destroyed and 15 enemy soldiers were killed when their positions in eastern Basra came under Iranian artillery fire on Thursday and Friday.

Iraqis Hit Kordestan Residential Areas

LD051853 Tehran IRNA in English 1846 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 5, IRNA — Some 23 civilians were martyred and wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas in Marivan and Rabat township, Kordestan Province Friday. Three civilians were martyred and 15 others wounded in bombardment of the Rabat township and en empty minibus was destroyed. Some four people were also wounded in a hospital and a number of areas in Marivan.

Zakhu Complexes Hit in Retaliation

LD060707 Tehran IRNA in English 0700 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 6, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers hit a garrison and a number of economic centers in Zakhu, north of Iraq, Saturday morning in retaliation for Friday Iraqi air raids on residential areas in Marivan and Rabat in western Iran and a children park in Haft-Tappeh in the south. The Joint Staff Command in a statement announced that heavy damage was inflicted on Zakhu's military and economic centers. All the Iranian aircraft returned to base safely, the statement added.

Iraqi Warplanes Bomb Ahvaz 6 Dec

LD061134 Tehran IRNA in English 1041 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Dec 6, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed two residential quarters in this southern city Saturday morning, killing and wounding a number of Arab-speaking Iranians. The two simultaneous air raids took place at 06:55 GMT.

In these two attacks Iraqi planes hit Zarqan region and an adjacent village, in which several houses were destroyed and damaged, and also another residential area in the city in which a number of housing units for factory workers located. Relief operations are underway to pull out bodies from under the debris and rescue those possibly alive.

Spokesman Warns of Retaliation

LD061151 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] A War Information Headquarters spokesman announced a few seconds ago: Because of the resumption of the wicked deeds by the Zionist enemy in raiding our country's populated and working-class areas, all of Iraq's military industrial and economic zones will be subjected to the fire of Islam's combatants as of 2000 hours tonight. The War Information Headquarters spokesman added: This retaliation by Islam's combatants will last for 48 hours. He then called on the Iraqi people to evacuate the areas around all military, industrial, and economic zones located in Iraqi cities, and to seek refuge in Iraq's four safe cities [Zarbala, Al-Najaf, Al-Kazimiyah, and Samarra].

Death Toll in Ahvaz Raid Said [illegible]00

LD061724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Excerpts] According to an IRNA report, residential and densely populated quarters of Ahvaz were subjected to savage attacks by aircraft of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and many of our innocent fellow-countrymen were martyred. [passage omitted]

According to the latest report from Ahvaz, following today's savage attack by intruding Iraqi aircraft against Ahvaz more than 100 of our fellow-countrymen have been martyred among whom many women and children are included. During this raid which took place at 1545, the criminal Iraqi pilots bombed more than ten residential zones in the city. Rescue work and the digging out of possible dead bodies from under the rubble is still continuing at the time of this report. So far, no figures for the people injured during this crime have been released [passage omitted]

Iraqis Bomb Industrial Center

LD061808 Tehran IRNA in English 1756 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 6, IRNA — An industrial center in northern Iran was bombed by intruding Iraqi warplanes Saturday. Two employees of the center were martyred and 25 others slightly wounded during the Iraqi raid. The wounded were provided medical treatment immediately after the raid.

Iraqis Bomb Gilan-e Gharb, Kill 1

LD061919 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 6, IRNA — One civilian was martyred and another wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas in the western Iranian city of Gilan-e Gharb Saturday afternoon. Some houses were also damaged in the raid.

Intruding Iraqi warplanes bombed several residential areas in Khuzestan Province many times Saturday martyring scores of civilians and wounding many others.

At least 100 civilians were martyred in Saturday afternoon's Iraqi air attack on Ahvaz, Khuzestan Province.

Iranian long range artillery fire began to hit Iraqi economic, industrial, and military centers at 20:00 hours (16:30 hours GMT) Saturday in retaliation for the barbaric enemy raids on civilians.

Tehran To Retaliate for 48 Hours

NC070704 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Due to the Zionist enemy's renewed crimes, represented by his attacks on our countrys industrial and residential areas, the fighters of Islam resumed their shelling of all military, industrial, and economic targets in Iraq at 2000 [1630 GMT] yesterday.

According to a statement by a spokesman for the war propaganda headquarters, this retaliatory action by the fighters of Islam will continue for 48 hours. It should be added that the spokesman called on the Iraqi people yesterday afternoon to evacuate areas around all military, industrial, and economic centers in Iraqi cities, and to take refuge in that country's four safe cities.

UN Envoy Requested To View 'Crimes'

NC070614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Foreign Minister Velayati sent the following letter last night to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in the wake of Iraqi attacks on residential areas in our country:

In the name of God Almighty. Your Excellency: I deem it necessary to inform you that the criminal Iraqi regime committed one of its most shameless crimes in the history of the imposed war today. Several of its airplanes bombed more than 50 points in Ahvaz, resulting in the martyrdom or injury of hundreds, and the destruction of vast areas of the city.

Although the history of the imposed war, which is more than 6 years old, is filled with accounts of crimes, pitiless murders, and violations of international law by the aggressive Baghdad regime — of which your excellency is also aware — the scope and effects of today's crimes are unprecedented.

On the basis of the bitter experience gained in the past few years, and in light of the increasing number of Iraqi raids on Iranian cities and residential areas, the Islamic Republic of Iran noted in advance that the Iraqi regime might commit such a crime and warned it not to do so. It is a source of great regret that despite all this, we have seen no suitable or decisive reaction by the United Nations to Iraq's crimes. Your excellency knows that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always tried, as far as possible, to avoid retaliatory actions and has turned to them only as a last resort, and even then only as a warning and factor for deterrence.

Nevertheless, since Iran's restraint has led only to greater impudence from Iraq's aggressive regime, and as no international deterrence is conceivable, I wish to tell your excellency that the Islamic Republic of Iran will answer Iraq's recent crimes in the strongest possible way. The consequences of Iran's retaliatory actions, which are deemed an unavoidable necessity at this point, must be borne by those who began the attacks on cities and residential areas — that is, the Iraqi regime. The responsibility must also be shared by those international organizations which have refused, throughout the imposed war, to implement any sort of deterrent action or international punishment for the violation of the world's most basic humanitarian norms, thus encouraging Iraq to continue its crimes.

The question that the world now asks is this: How will the UN Security Council react to these monstrous crimes? The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran expects your excellency to send an official representative immediately to see the effects of the Iraqi regime's shameless crimes in Ahvaz, and to take substantive measures on the basis of the responsibilities outlined

in the UN Charter to apply the required international pressure on the Iraqi regime and to prevent any repetition of such inhumane acts.

[Signed] Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ali Akbar Velayati

Musavi Promises 'Decisive Response'
LD071241 Tehran IRNA in English 1230 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Sunday that barbaric Iraqi air raids on Iranian residential areas will not remain unanswered and that the Islamic Republic of Iran will give a decisive response to these aggressions on the basis of its avowed principles. The prime minister, who was speaking after a cabinet session here, said that such raids will not only serve to further unify the Iranian people, noting that this stage of Iraqi regime's brutality will certainly be detrimental to it. [passage omitted]

3 Missiles Fired at Basra Centers
LD071002 Tehran IRNA in English 0959 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — Three short-range surface-to-surface missiles of the Iranian Ground Forces hit industrial and military centers of the Iraqi port city of Basra Sunday morning. The missile attack was in retaliation for the Saturday Iraqi attacks on residential and industrial areas of Iran. There is no report yet available on the extent of damages. Meanwhile foreign news agencies which have representatives in Iraq have so far kept silent towards the Sunday missile attack.

Over hundred civilians, mainly women and children, were martyred and scores of others wounded during Saturday Iraqi air raid on residential areas in Ahvaz.

Iraqi Economic Complexes Hit 7 Dec
LD071053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] According to the Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces, at 0738, 0741, 0749, 1110 and 1150 this morning fighter-bomber aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces bombed economic installations in Diyanah, power installations at Dukan Dam, economic installations of (Imadiyah), Al-Kut base, and economic and military installations of Jalula in Iraq, inflicting heavy damage on the Zionist enemy. All planes returned to their bases safely.

Air Defense Downs Iraqi Plane
LD071644 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] According to an IRNA report from Eslamabad-e Gharb, an aggressor Iraqi plane was shot down by the air defence units of the combatants of Islam this afternoon.

Iraqi Forces in Val-Fajr 8 Area Hit
LD071805 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov. Dec 7, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained considerable losses and damage when Muslim combatants of Iran shelled their positions and fortifications, military units, as well as supply axes in Val-Fajr 8 operational region and near Al-Basrah, from Saturday night to Sunday. Some 20 Iraqi tanks and personnel [words indistinct] Abu al-Khasib was also set afire in the course of heavy shelling, which is retaliation for Iraq's bombardment of residential areas in this southern Iranian city.

The Iranian Muslim combatants also subjected two motor-pools near Abu al-Khasib and Saybah, inside Iraq to their heavy fire setting ablaze 18 vehicles.

'Infiltration' Operations Launched
LD071204 Tehran IRNA in English 1140 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — Simultaneously with the dispatch of Mohammad (SAW) Corps to the battlefronts, the Muslim combatants recently launched an infiltration operation inside Iraqi territory, inflicting heavy casualties and damage on Iraqi forces.

During the operation the radio jamming station and relay center in Janaq Jiyan, Sulaymaniyah Province, was damaged. Meanwhile, ten tanks and armoured personnel carriers, and anti-aircraft units were demolished in the region and a large number of Iraqi soldiers were killed.

The operation was jointly carried out by forces under the command of Ramadan headquarters, the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), and the military branch of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, in cooperation with the Iraqi Kurdish Peshmergas.

Following the operation, movement of the Iraqi forces on military roads of the region was halted for several hours.

In another operation, the engineering, military, and transport centers of the 27th Division of Iraq in Kani Panbeh were attacked during which hundred Iraqi forces were killed while 50 armoured tanks and personnel carriers were demolished.

The headquarters of the 27th Division sustained heavy casualties and damage in Dar al Salam.

Meanwhile, Muslim combatants attacked Iraq's Government, intelligence, and military centers including the Ba'th Party bureau, power transmitter post, headquarters of government forces, workship for manufacturing road construction facilities and cement producing complex in Kani Panbeh.

Simultaneously with this operation Iraqi Muslim Kurdish Peshmergas infiltrated into Iraq's Sayyid Sadiq and Sirvan cities and attacked a center of the so-called popular forces and several government and military centers with RPG-7 guns and mortar, inflicting casualties upon the enemy. During the operation Iraqi

people sincerely cooperated with the Muslim combatants who returned to their base safely after carrying out their mission.

Communique No 2,676

LD051617 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 5, IRNA — Iranian artillery fire foiled Iraqi attempts for setting up mine fields in areas around their defensive positions in Nahr 'Anbar Thursday. Casualties were inflicted on the enemy troops in the shelling.

Joint Staff Communique No 2,676 released here Friday also said that Iraqi artillery fire was silenced in Bakhtaran and Ilam and that damage was inflicted on enemy positions.

In the exchange of artillery fire which was somehwat more intense in Naft Shahr, several Iraqi gun emplacements as well as heavy and light vehicles were totally destroyed and a number of enemy soldiers were killed, said the communique. Movement of Iraqi engineering vehicles was also disrupted in Mehran and Helaleh operational regions.

Most Iraqi air violations on western and southern fronts were thwarted on Thursday and an enemy infantry unit suffered considerable losses when it came under artillery fire of the Muslim combatants in Panjwin, the communique said.

In Marivan operational region artillery fire of the Iranian forces set ablaze an Iraqi motor pool destroying several military vehicles of the enemy.

In the northwestern fronts Iraqi fire was silenced, their activities suppressed, and a number of the enemy troops killed by Iranian artillery fire according to the communique.

Communique No 2,677

LD061556 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 6, IRNA — A garrison and economic centers in the northern Iraqi city of Zakhu, Dahuk Province, were heavily bombed by Iranian jet fighters at 07:45 hours (04:15 hours GMT) Saturday. The fighters after inflicting substantial losses on enemy military and economic sites returned safely to bases, said a military communique here.

Communique Number 2,677 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that Iranian long range artillery fire hit some important Iraqi military bases in southeastern Iraq Friday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops.

A number of civilians were wounded when intruding Iraqi warplanes bombed Rabat township in west Azerbayjan Province Friday morning, the communique said.

Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses throughout the fronts Friday when their positions and supply routes were shelled by Iranian forces Friday.

The military communique furthermore said that parts of Iraqi positions were devastated and at least five heavy enemy vehicles and pieces of engineering equipment destroyed in Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts by Iranian artillery fire on Friday.

Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi tanks in 'Eyn Khvosh and Al-'Amarah operational theaters Friday silenced their fire and destroyed a number of enemy tanks, according to the communique.

Sporadic artillery fire was traded between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops in the northwestern fronts, and enemy supply and engineering operations checked, the communique concluded.